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SOUTHEASTERN ASIA PRESS LAUDS POSITION
OF OVERSEAS CHINESE IN NORTH KOREA

FORM ORGANIZATION BASED ON INTERNATIONALISM -- Soerabaja Hua-ch'iao Hsin-wen,
13 May 50

Peiping, 12 May -- The following is a report on the conditions of overseas Chinese in North Korea:

Prior to 15 August 1945 when North Korea was liberated, the overseas Chinese there, like their brethren elsewhere, suffered oppression and maltreatment from the imperialists. With the surrender of Japan, the overseas Chinese in North Korea gained new stature. This was because North Korea was liberated by the Soviet Red Army and, under the policy of equality of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the overseas Chinese led a life different from those in colonial and semicolonial areas.

Like overseas Chinese in the USSR, in the liberated areas of Viet Nam, and in other new democratic nations, those in North Korea have freedom of speech, of assembly, of organization, and of the press, as well as the freedom of supporting the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Their standard of living has risen. It has been possible, therefore, to develop among them the traditional spirit of patriotism toward China. They were elated when the Central People's government was established, and pledged themselves to help the Democratic People's Republic of Korea become the people's paradise.

The 40,000 overseas Chinese in North Korea have joined together to form the United Association of Overseas Chinese in North Korea (1) /numbers refer to appended characters/ to promote international propaganda and education. There was much celebration when China and the USSR signed a mutual aid and friendship pact. They realized that, with the aid of the USSR, agricultural China has hopes of becoming an industrialized nation.

The culture and education of overseas Chinese in North Korea have also advanced. Between December and February, the association organized 211 trade schools which had an enrollment of 7,460 students. One third of these students were illiterate prior to the liberation.

- 1 -

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Mindful of Mao Tse-tung's appeal for unity, the overseas Chinese of North Korea hope to join forces with the local people and fight to win universal peace and democracy.

CHINESE YOUTH MAKE GREAT ADVANCES -- Bangkok Ch'uan Min Pao, 3 May 50

P'yongyang -- In the great democratic base of North Korea reside 40,000 overseas Chinese who are mostly from Shantung. Their occupation is mainly agricultural and their record of settlement in Korea goes back several decades. Most of the Chinese youths grew up in a Japanese-controlled Korea and, consequently, have a deep bond of sympathy with the natives.

After World War II, the overseas Chinese, including youths, formed their own organization, the United Association of Overseas Chinese in North Korea. Equitable treatment under North Korean rule made it possible for overseas Chinese to receive land and their livelihood, in general, improved. The Chinese in North Korea are aware that life for the overseas Chinese in the US-puppet-controlled government of South Korea is much worse than during the Japanese regime. South Korea is a hell on earth while North Korea is paradise.

The youthful Chinese are adept at truck farming. In the factories and in the mines, they are model laborers. In the spirit of internationalism, they have linked themselves with Korean youths to shoulder the work of winning world peace.

Before the liberation, the overseas Chinese in North Korea did not have middle schools. There were only 30 primary schools. The number of students did not reach 2,000. However, at present, there are two middle schools and 90 primary schools with an aggregate enrollment of almost 8,000. Illiteracy among the young Chinese has almost been wiped out. The establishment of the Chinese People's Republic has spurred them on toward higher education and culture.

According to Lin Fu-ch'un (2), president of the Overseas Chinese Middle School Students' Self-Government Association, the Chinese youths in Korea are dedicated to follow the example of the fighting youths of China and to participate in local Korean activities to support China.

CHARACTERS

1. 北朝鮮華僑聯合總會
2. 林福春

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